

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Joseph A. Zupanick et al. Art Unit : 3673
Serial No. : 10/003,917 Examiner : John J. Kreck
Filed : November 1, 2001
Title : METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR SURFACE PRODUCTION OF GAS FROM A
SUBTERRANEAN ZONE

MAIL STOP RCE

Commissioner for Patents
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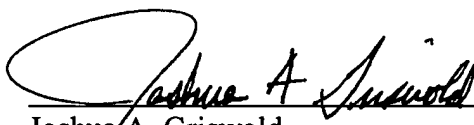
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Applicants request consideration of the references listed on the attached PTO-1449 form. Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.98 (a)(2)(ii), only copies of foreign patent documents and/or non-patent literature are enclosed. Copies of any listed U.S. patents or U.S. patent application publications can be provided upon request. A copy of a communication from a foreign patent office in a related application is also enclosed.

This filing is being made with the filing of a Request for Continued Examination. No fee is required.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: May 15, 2006


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May 15, 2006
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Substitute Form PTO-1449 (Modified)	U.S. Department of Commerce Patent and Trademark Office	Attorney's Docket No. 17601-019001	Application No. 10/003,917
Information Disclosure Statement by Applicant (Use several sheets if necessary) (37 CFR §1.98(b))		Applicant Joseph A. Zupanick et al.	
		Filing Date November 1, 2001	Group Art Unit 3673

U.S. Patent Documents

Examiner Initial	Desig. ID	Document Number	Publication Date	Patentee	Class	Subclass	Filing Date If Appropriate
	A1	Re. 32,623	03/15/1988	Marshall et al.			
	A2	6,581,455 B1	06/24/2003	Berger et al.			
	A3	6,581,685 B2	06/24/2003	Burgess et al.			
	A4	2003/0234120 A1	12/25/2003	Paluch et al.			

Foreign Patent Documents or Published Foreign Patent Applications

Examiner Initial	Desig. ID	Document Number	Publication Date	Country or Patent Office	Class	Subclass	Translation	
							Yes	No
	B1	WO 03/036023 A1	05/01/2003	WIPO			N/A	

Other Documents (include Author, Title, Date, and Place of Publication)

Examiner Initial	Desig. ID	Document
	C1	Notification of Transmittal of the International Preliminary Report of Patentability (1 page) and International Preliminary Report on Patentability (12 pages) mailed January 9, 2006 for International Application No. PCT/US2004/036616
	C2	Notification Concerning Transmittal of Copy of International Preliminary Report on Patentability (Chapter 1 of the Patent Cooperation Treaty) (1 page), International Preliminary Report on Patentability (1 page), and Written Opinion of the International Searching Authority (7 pages) mailed December 22, 2005 for International Application No. PCT/US2004/017048
	C3	European Search and Examination Report, completed December 5, 2005 for Application Number EP 05020737, 5 pages
	C4	P.C. Thakur and W.N. Poundstone, "Horizontal Drilling Technology for Advance Degasification," Society of Mining Engineers of AIME, Preprint Number 79-113, For presentation at the 1979 AIME Annual Meeting, New Orleans, Louisiana, February 18-22, 1979, Engineering Societies Library stamp dated February 5, 1980, 11 pages.
	C5	Notification Concerning Transmittal of Copy of International Preliminary Report on Patentability (1 page), International Preliminary Report on Patentability (1 page), and Written Opinion of the International Searching Authority (5 pages) mailed February 9, 2006 for International Application No. PCT/US2004/024518
	C6	Wang Weiping, "Trend of Drilling Technology Abroad," Petroleum Drilling and Production Technology, 1995 (Volume 17), Issue 6, www.cnki.net , 8 pages
	C7	Tver, David, <u>The Petroleum Dictionary</u> , 1980, page 221.
	C8	Rennick, et al., "Demonstration of Safety Plugging of Oil Wells Penetrating Appalachian Coal Mines," Bureau of Mines Coal Mine Health and Safety Research Program, Technical Progress Report - 56, U.S. Department of the Interior, July 1972, 25 pages
	C9	George N. Aul and Joseph Cervik, "Grouting Horizontal Drainage Holes in Coalbeds, RI 8375, Bureau of Mines Report of Investigations, U.S. Department of the Interior, 1979, 21 pages

Examiner Signature	Date Considered
EXAMINER: Initials citation considered. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.	

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	C10	Paul J. Componation, et al., "Cleaning Out, Sealing and Mining Through Wells Penetrating Areas of Active Coal Mines in Northern West Virginia," MESA Information Report 1052, 1977, 26 pages
	C11	George S. Rice, "Notes on the Prevention of Dust and Gas Explosions in Coal Mines," Technical Paper 56, Department of the Interior Bureau of Mines, copyright 1913, 12 pages
	C12	George S. Rice, et al., "Oil and Gas Wells Through Workable Coal Beds," Bulletin 65, Petroleum Technology 7, Bureau of Mines Internal Industries, copyright 1913, 54 pages
	C13	Pratt, et al, U.S. Patent Application entitled "Cavity Well System," S/N 11/141,335, May 31, 2005, 19 pages

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